

## **Jordan Lake Water Supply Storage Allocation: Round Three**

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**March 18, 2002, 7:00 PM**

The North Carolina Environmental Management Commission (EMC) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the Division of Water Resources' recommendations for Round Three of Jordan Lake water supply storage allocation. This public hearing will start at 7:00 PM on March 18, 2002 at 512 N. Salisbury Street, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, Raleigh. In addition, staff will be available to answer questions from 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM, prior to the hearing. The public may inspect the staff's recommendation report during normal business hours at the offices of the Division of Water Resources, 512 N. Salisbury Street, Room 1106, Archdale Building, Raleigh. This document may also be viewed at the Division's web site: <http://www.ncwater.org>.

The purpose of this announcement is to encourage those interested in these matters to provide comments. You may attend the public hearings and make relevant oral comments and/or submit written comments, data, or other relevant information. We request that you bring a written version of your oral comments to the hearing. The hearing officers may limit the length of oral presentations if many people want to speak. If you are unable to attend, written comments can be mailed to Sydney Miller, Division of Water Resources, DENR, 1611 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1611. Comments must be received before 5:00 PM, March 22, 2002. Comments may also be submitted electronically to [sydney.miller@ncmail.net](mailto:sydney.miller@ncmail.net).

The State of North Carolina has purchased the use of the entire water supply storage in B. Everett Jordan Lake. Under GS 143-354(a)(11) the State can assign this storage to any local government demonstrating a need for water supply storage. Administrative rule T15A: 02G.0500 describes the specific procedures to be used when allocating the Jordan Lake water supply storage. The two main criteria for Jordan Lake water supply allocations are future water needs and availability of alternative water supplies.

Initial allocations of water supply from Jordan Lake were made in 1988. The State completed the second round of allocations in July 2001. Eleven communities have requested new or additional allocations from Jordan Lake in this third round. The Division of Water Resources' allocation recommendations are illustrated in Table 1 on the following page.

Some of the key features of these recommended water supply storage allocations are:

- All allocation applicants will have their projected 2030 water needs met either from Jordan Lake or from their existing water supply sources.
- These recommendations leave 39 percent of the water supply pool unallocated and available to meet future water needs. Of the 50 percent of the Lake's total water supply yield that may be allocated for use outside of the Lake's watershed under current policy, at least 10 mgd remains unallocated and available for future water needs.
- Based on a projection of all Basin water supply needs to 2050, the recommended allocations will not hinder any community's ability to meet its 2050 water needs.

- Applicants requested allocations to meet 2050 needs, plus a 20 percent margin. The Division of Water Resources recommended allocations to meet only 2030 needs, as specified in the administrative rule for Jordan Lake water supply storage allocations.
- We based our recommended allocations on the water use projections developed by each applicant with one exception. We adjusted Chatham County's assumed per capita water use rate to bring it more in line with the rates used by other applicants.
- No additional interbasin transfer certificates are required for the recommended allocations.
- The US Congress authorized one-third of the Jordan Lake conservation pool to be used for water supply and two-thirds for downstream flow augmentation. Water supply storage allocations come from the water supply pool and do not affect the project's ability to meet downstream flow targets.

**Table 1. Jordan Lake Water Supply Storage Allocations for Round Three <sup>(a)</sup>**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Current Total Allocation (mgd)</b>	<b>Requested Total Allocation (mgd)</b>	<b>Recommended Total Allocation (mgd)</b>	<b>Interbasin Transfer Certification Required</b>
Chatham County	6.0	10.5	6.0	No
City of Durham	0	20.0	10.0	No
City of Fayetteville	0	not specified	0	No
City of Sanford	0	28.0	0	No
Harnett County	0	18.0	0	No
Town of Holly Springs	2.0	16.0	0	No
OWASA	10.0	5.0	5.0	No
Orange County	1.0	1.0	1.0	No
Towns of Cary and Apex	21.0	44.0	32.0	No
Town of Morrisville	2.5	5.0	3.5	No
Wake County/ Research Triangle Park	1.5	5.5	3.5	No
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>153.0</b>	<b>61.0</b>	

(a) Allocations obtained are actually a percentage of the water supply storage in Jordan Lake. However, since all (100 percent) of the water supply storage has an estimated safe yield of 100 mgd, allocations are conveniently expressed here in terms of mgd. For example, a 6.0 mgd allocation actually represents an allocation of 6.0 percent of Jordan Lake's water supply storage.

Level II allocation holders are reserving the right to use Jordan Lake water in the future and pay only a proportional amount of the interest and operating costs associated with the water supply storage component of Jordan Lake. Level I allocation holders have present rights to use Jordan Lake water and are required to repay a proportional share of the capital cost of the project, as well as the interest and operating costs paid by Level II allocation holders. Because Level II allocation holders have only paid to reserve water supply storage for future use and have not paid any capital costs, the Division of Water

Resources does not recommend reimbursement of past Level II allocation payments when Level II allocations are reduced in accordance with the allocation holders' changes in plans or growth rates. Therefore, we recommend no reimbursement of payments made by OWASA or Holly Springs.

The EMC is considering adding the following condition to Jordan Lake allocations:

*If an extreme drought or a water supply emergency caused by water contamination or infrastructure damage threatens the ability of a public water supply system to meet the public health and safety needs of its customers, the Secretary of DENR can make emergency allocations or reallocations of the water supply storage at Jordan Lake to respond to these emergencies. These emergency allocations or reallocations are limited to 30 days and may be renewed for one additional 30 day period. Before taking such an action, the Secretary shall consult with affected parties and shall specify conditions to protect all affected water users.*

The EMC may consider allocations of different amounts and to different recipients than those recommended by the Division of Water Resources. The EMC invites comments on the recommended allocations, on the recommended amounts as compared with the requested amounts, and on the aforementioned allocation condition.

For more information, visit our project website at:

[http://www.ncwater.org/Permits\\_and\\_Registration/Jordan\\_Lake\\_Water\\_Supply\\_Allocation/](http://www.ncwater.org/Permits_and_Registration/Jordan_Lake_Water_Supply_Allocation/). You may also contact Sydney Miller in the Division of Water Resources at 919-715-3044, or email: [sydney.miller@ncmail.net](mailto:sydney.miller@ncmail.net).